LOS/PCN/WP.54
2 April 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE
INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY
AND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL
TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA
Eleventh session
Kingston, Jamaica
22 March-2 April 1993

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

In connection with the consideration of the draft reports of the Preparatory Commission* and of the Special Commissions,** which are to sum up many years of work by the Preparatory Commission and its organs, the delegation of the Russian Federation feels it necessary to draw attention to the existence of controversial issues connected with part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which must be resolved if the Convention is to have the universal character without which cooperation in this area will be unilateral and imperfect. The outstanding issues must all be resolved on the basis of the principles of equality and respect for the vital interests of all the major groups of States.

Because these issues remain unresolved, the Russian Federation reserves its position both on the above-mentioned reports and on all the work done by the Preparatory Commission.

The fact that note is taken of the reports of the Preparatory Commission and the reports of the Special Commissions should not be interpreted as prejudging the position of Russia, which will be determined in the light of whether agreement is reached on the controversial issues in part XI with a view to making the Convention universal in character. The outcome of efforts to achieve agreement on the outstanding issues will determine the attitude of the Russian Federation towards the results of the activity of the Preparatory Commission, reflected in the reports of the Commission and of its organs.

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* LOS/PCN/WP.52.

** LOS/PCN/SCN.1/1992/CRP.22; LOS/PCN/SCN.2/1992/CRP.6; LOS/PCN/SCN.3/1992/CRP.17; LOS/PCN/SCN.4/WP.15.

93-21247 (E)